

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
COME-00 OES-07 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 EB-07 EA-07
FRB-03 IO-13 NEA-10 USIA-06 OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00
LAB-04 EPG-02 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-04 SS-15 NSC-05
/116 W

-----078990 250104Z /70

R 241635Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0499
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

S E C R E T BRUSSELS 06768

USEEC

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, US, DA
SUBJECT: US INTERESTS AND POLICY OBJECTIVES FOR DENMARK
1977: US-DANISH DIALOGUE ON US-EC RELATIONS

REF: A) STATE 145618, B) EC BRUSSELS 3176

1. WE HAVE NOTED WITH CONSIDERABLE INTEREST STATEMENT,
UNDER OBJECTIVES FOR US-DANISH DIALOGUE ON US-EC RELATIONS
(PARA 2-D REFTEL), THAT OUR AIM IS TO "ENCOURAGE DANISH
SUPPORT FOR EVENTUAL SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE EC MEMBERSHIP."
THIS STRIKES US AS A CONSIDERABLY MORE FORTHCOMING US
POLICY LINE ON EC ENLARGEMENT, PARTICULARLY IN RELATION
TO THE POSITION WE SHOULD TAKE WITH THE PARTIES INVOLVED
IN THIS PROCESS, THAN WE HAVE PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED FROM
WASHINGTON; IN FACT IT GOES WELL BEYOND RECENT GUIDANCE
WE HAVE SEEN FROM DEPARTMENT ON POLICY ASSESSMENTS FOR
USEC AND PORTUGAL (STATE 108995 AND STATE 146037). THE
QUESTION WE RAISE IS WHETHER THE DEPARTMENT NOW FAVORS
GENERAL AND OVERT ENCOURAGEMENT OF PORTUGUESE AND SPANISH
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MEMBERSHIP IN EC OR WHETHER WE STICK TO PREVIOUS LINE OF
SIMPLY ENCOURAGING STRENGTHENED EC RELATIONS WITH SPAIN
AND PORTUGAL AT A PACE DESIRED BY THE PARTIES DIRECTLY
CONCERNED.

2. AS RECENT REPORTING FROM USEC AND EMBASSIES IN EC
COUNTRIES HAS INDICATED, COMMUNITY ENLARGEMENT HAS BECOME

AN INCREASINGLY WEIGHTY AND CONTROVERSIAL ISSUE WITHIN THE MEMBER STATES AND THE EC COMMISSION. THERE ARE MANY PROS AND CONS FROM THE EC STANDPOINT. ENLARGEMENT ALSO RAISES QUESTIONS WITH BOTH POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE ASPECTS FOR US INTERESTS. MISSION FEELS THESE QUESTIONS SHOULD BE CAREFULLY WEIGHED BEFORE WE ASSUME A MORE OR LESS PUBLIC PROFILE ON THE SUBJECT--OR ADVOCATE A SPECIFIC COURSE OF ACTION. MOREOVER, IT WAS WITH THIS IN MIND THAT WE RECOMMENDED IN USEC'S ANNUAL POLICY ASSESSMENT (REFTEL B), THAT WASHINGTON CAREFULLY STUDY THIS ISSUE. TO THAT END WE ARE NOW PUTTING THE FINAL TOUCHES ON A MISSION STUDY OF ENLARGEMENT WHICH WE HOPE WOULD HIGHLIGHT SOME OF THE ISSUES WHICH WE BELIEVE SHOULD BE PART OF THE THOROUGHGOING WASHINGTON ASSESSMENT WE HAVE RECOMMENDED.

3. IF REFTTEL A WAS NOT INTENDED TO SANCTION ACTIVE US ENCOURAGEMENT AND INVOLVEMENT AT THIS STAGE IN THE ISSUE OF PORTUGUESE AND SPANISH MEMBERSHIP, WE BELIEVE SOME CLARIFICATION IS IN ORDER. MORRIS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEMBERSHIP, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BRUSSE06768
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770227-0631
Format: TEL
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770620/aaaaarln.tel
Line Count: 81
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1f654977-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 145618, 77 EC BRUSSELS 3176
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2039495
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US INTERESTS AND POLICY OBJECTIVES FOR DENMARK 1977: US-DANISH DIALOGUE ON US-EC RELATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, PORG, US, DA, SP, PO, EEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1f654977-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009